

a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO DR. KAREN O'NEIL

Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Dr. Karen O'Neil and to thank her for her service as director of the Green Bank Observatory for the past 15 years.

Dr. O'Neil received her Ph.D. from the University of Oregon in physics, with a specialty in astrophysics. In addition to her work at Green Bank, she has worked as a professor of physics at the University of Oregon. She was also a staff astronomer at the National Ionosphere and Astronomy Center's Arecibo Observatory in Arecibo, PR, where she worked on the commissioning and testing of a wide variety of instruments and software for the 300m telescope. I am proud to join all of West Virginia in thanking Dr. Karen O'Neil for bringing her vast expertise to the Mountain State.

For more than 60 years, the National Science Foundation, Pocahontas County, and the State of West Virginia have supported the ability of innumerable national and international scientists to make discoveries about our universe using the capabilities located at the observatory within the National Quiet Zone. Scientists at the Green Bank Observatory have made significant discoveries that have helped us better understand our universe. Among the many achievements during Dr. O'Neil's tenure, researchers helped discover a massive star that strains the limits of physics, a discovery that wouldn't have been possible without the research made possible at Green Bank. It is a testament to the tremendous amount of research and data the observatory provides to the global scientific community.

For the past several years, I have been committed to ensuring Green Bank stays open for the next generation of young West Virginia scientists. Dr. Karen O'Neil has been a tremendous part of this effort. Not long ago, we were fighting to keep the observatory open, and thanks to Dr. O'Neil's efforts, we are now discussing Green Bank's integral role in the next generation of astrophysics. Once again, I am truly grateful for her service as director. Fortunately, she is not going far, and will continue to be a vital part of the continued growth of the observatory. I am also proud to join her in welcoming the incoming Green Bank Director, Dr. James M. Jackson, who recognizes the observatory's role as an essential facility in the Nation's astrophysics portfolio, and I know he will continue this legacy of excellence.

TRIBUTE TO EUGENE P. BOYD

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, I rise to thank my constituent, Congress-

sional Research Service analyst Eugene P. Boyd, on his four decades of service to the U.S. Congress. Mr. Boyd retired in January 2020, but, as with many other milestones, recognition of his retirement was disrupted by the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mr. Boyd, a resident of Clinton, MD, began his CRS career in 1979 as an analyst focusing on urban policy and federalism. Throughout his career, he provided expert advice to the House and Senate on topics that included economic development, empowerment zones, gentrification, and intergovernmental relations.

Mr. Boyd began his career as a relocation specialist for the Prince George's County Housing Authority. He earned a bachelor's degree in urban planning from Virginia Commonwealth University and a master's degree in urban planning from Howard University.

Mr. Boyd is noted especially for his commitment to and expertise on the District of Columbia, including detailed knowledge of the city's policies and politics that helped Congress understand the effects of its lawmaking on the Nation's Capital. He coordinated a CRS team that supported congressional consideration of the 1997 Capital Revitalization and Government Reorganization Act. He advised Congress throughout its oversight of D.C. revitalization during the 1990s. More recently, his work focused on the Puerto Rico Financial Oversight and Management Board—FOMB—and the Community Development Block Grant—CDBG—Program's role in disaster recovery. He also aided Congress in understanding challenges facing local governments that drew national attention, such as the Flint, MI, water system.

Mr. Boyd's colleagues regard him as a leader, mentor, and friend. In addition to guiding his colleagues in their official duties, Mr. Boyd served in his personal capacity as an active member of the Congressional Research Employees Association—CREA—and as a director and vice chairman of the Library of Congress Federal Credit Union. His colleagues always appreciated his kindness, humor, impeccable sartorial style, and expert culinary contributions. Above all, they treasured him as a gentleman and a professional who made CRS a better place to work.

Some of Mr. Boyd's most important life's work occurred outside of the office. He was a member of only the second class to integrate the public high schools in Newport News, VA. He knew well the realities of segregation, which inspired his lifelong belief in the importance of democratic participation. He is a committed mentor, especially to young Black men, individually and through the Concerned Black Men organization. And in a true act of selflessness, in 1992 Mr. Boyd helped save the life of a 13-year-old boy in Oklahoma, whom he had never met, by serving as a bone marrow donor. Mr. Boyd

is so humble that many of his longtime colleagues did not know about his personal sacrifice until after he retired.

The U.S. Congress and our Nation are better informed because of Eugene Boyd's service to the legislative branch. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Boyd and his beloved wife Sharon Butts, also a CRS retiree, and daughter Lauren, all the best as Mr. Boyd begins the next chapter of his life of service to his community and his country.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING BOBBY BOWDEN

• Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of college football coaching legend and my very good longtime friend, Bobby Bowden.

Gayle and I offer our deepest condolences to the members of the Bowden family, as well as to the entire extended Bulldogs, Mountaineers, and Seminoles families. We have lost a shining star in the college athletics community, but everything he stood for and represented lives on in the hearts and minds of all who had the privilege of knowing him, myself included.

I will never forget the first time I met Bobby. It was 1966, and he and Ann pulled up in a station wagon with six kids in the back. He made an impression, to say the least. I have never met a more humble and kind person, and he was always such a positive influence in my life and the lives of all the players he coached. Bobby was also a deeply devoted man of faith. It didn't matter what your faith was, as long as you believed in something greater than yourself.

He holds a special place in the hearts of West Virginians in particular because of his tribute to the Marshall University team who perished in a plane crash in 1970. Our entire statewide community felt this loss. Friendly rivalries were set aside, and Bobby, who was head coach, led the way to tell the Nation "We are Marshall." West Virginia University players wore Marshall's initials on their helmets, and the next season, Bobby gave Marshall's new coaches access to film and gamebooks to help them rebuild their program. His selflessness toward Marshall during that devastating time has been cherished in the decades that have followed. He was really something special.

Bobby had a gift for teaching the game and motivating you to be the best you could be in all aspects of your life. And it wasn't all for the athletes; he treated everyone the very same. No one was more important than anyone else. It didn't matter who your family was or where you came from, what mattered is what you made of yourself with the circumstances the Lord gave